



"This is the Place" Monument

SPECIALTY SURGERY

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Monument to Etienne Provost



Provost and Ogden were among the early Mountain Men who led trapping expeditions into Utah and whose legacy included the names of two of the state's rivers and cities.

ETIENNE PROVOST
Taken from the original in the collection of the
Utah Historical Society

Etienne Provost



ARTIST'S SKETCH of Etienne Provost (also spelled Provot and Proveaux), trapper - explorer who came into Utah and camped on the shores of Utah Lake in 1824. It is for him that Provo and Provo River are named.

What of Utah History In the Pre-Mormon Period 1776-1847?

The history of Utah begins in most people's minds, with the coming of the Mormons. This is logical, and even basically correct as far as active settlement and development, but a lot happened before.

We know more about it than most people are aware, although there are gaps which prevent a detailed picture.

The journey of Dominguez and Escalante is well-known, but what of the period between 1776 and the coming of the Mormons in 1847?

From 1776 until about 1820 the gaps are large indeed. We have documented evidence of only two journeys of

Early Wagon Trail

By THERON H. LUKE

When did the first wagon train go through Utah?

Not 1847, as many Utahns would venture, but six years earlier — in 1841. And in 1846 three — and very probably four — trains went through, one of them blazing a trail followed virtually in its wheel tracks by the Mormons the following year.

This was the ill-fated Donner Party, which followed the Hastings Cutoff from where Henefer is today over Big and Little Mountains and down Emigration Canyon into Salt Lake Valley. The next year Brigham Young told Orson

Pratt to seek out the Donner trail and take advantage of it, which was done.

It was in 1841 that a wagon train of 80 people started West over the Oregon Trail, one of the first large single trains to make the journey. At about where Soda Springs is now, 32 people in 10 wagons under the leadership of two men named Bartleson and Bidwell branched off and headed south with California as their destination. They came into Cache Valley from the north and followed the Bear River down to about the site of present day Corrine.

Here they headed northwest



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Etienne Provot